

City Plaza Workshop
Facilitated by Jonathan Parker

January 4, 2007

Water Sculptures and Features

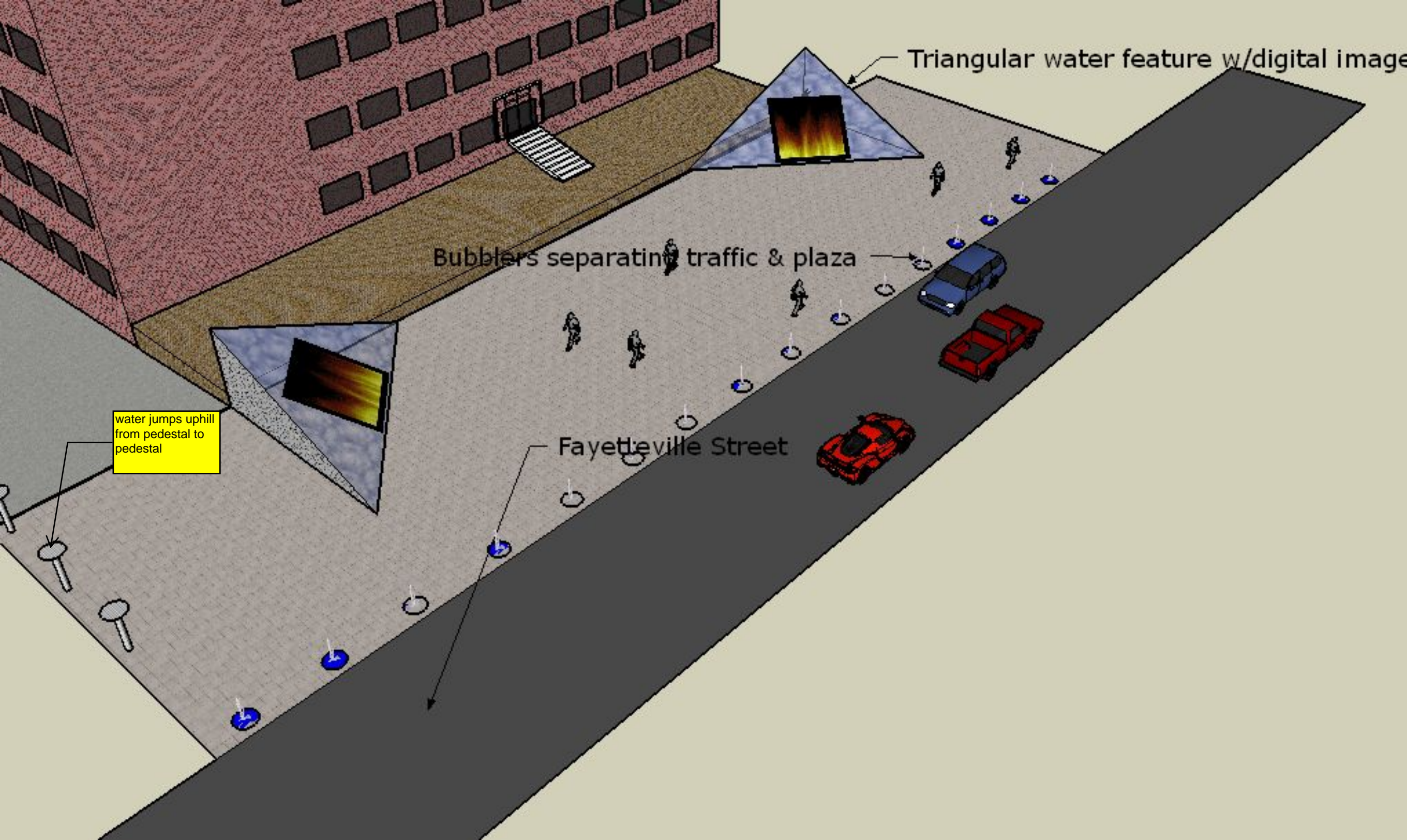
Mother Earth erupts with her "nectar of gaia" (water) from the Wilmington Street sidewalk between the Bank of America and Progress Energy buildings. The blob/drops of water will leap out of the ground on to a pedestal. Once it lands, water is shot out of that pedestal to another nearby pedestal at a higher elevation and so forth up towards the plaza. The water seems to hop up to each successive, higher plate (potentially made of various materials to create differing sounds), until ultimately the water has "hopped" uphill all the way to the City Square and Fayetteville Street. The effect causes pedestrians to want to walk up the alley between the buildings towards the plaza. We feel features such as this would be an excellent way to introduce the plaza area and differentiate it from other streets.

Once the water reaches the final pedestal, it falls down to the street into a small pool or stream that then flows under the sidewalk (which is parallel to Fayetteville St) and into a series of bubblers which line each side of Fayetteville Street in the square area. These bubblers provide the necessary physical separation between the plaza area and the actual area of Fayetteville Street which will carry cars. Additionally, the water could be timed such that it shoots upward at a higher level as cars pass in order to slow the speed of passing cars~say at 5-10 mph in each direction~as they pass through the plaza.

An additional water feature in all four corners of the square would include a large triangular feature (symbolizing the Triangle area~around 8-12 ft tall) with a large transparent surface facing the middle of the plaza and a plasma screen that can display different images and or videos under the water flowing over the screen. As water flows down the triangular slope, the video could show anything from water flowing upward, fire, acorns, etc. The water would pool at the bottom with ankle deep water for a few feet in the plaza. At each pedestrian access the same video feature could be shown on video boards submerged in the sidewalk.

All of this could fit within the context of other art sculptures within the square.

Jonathan Parker

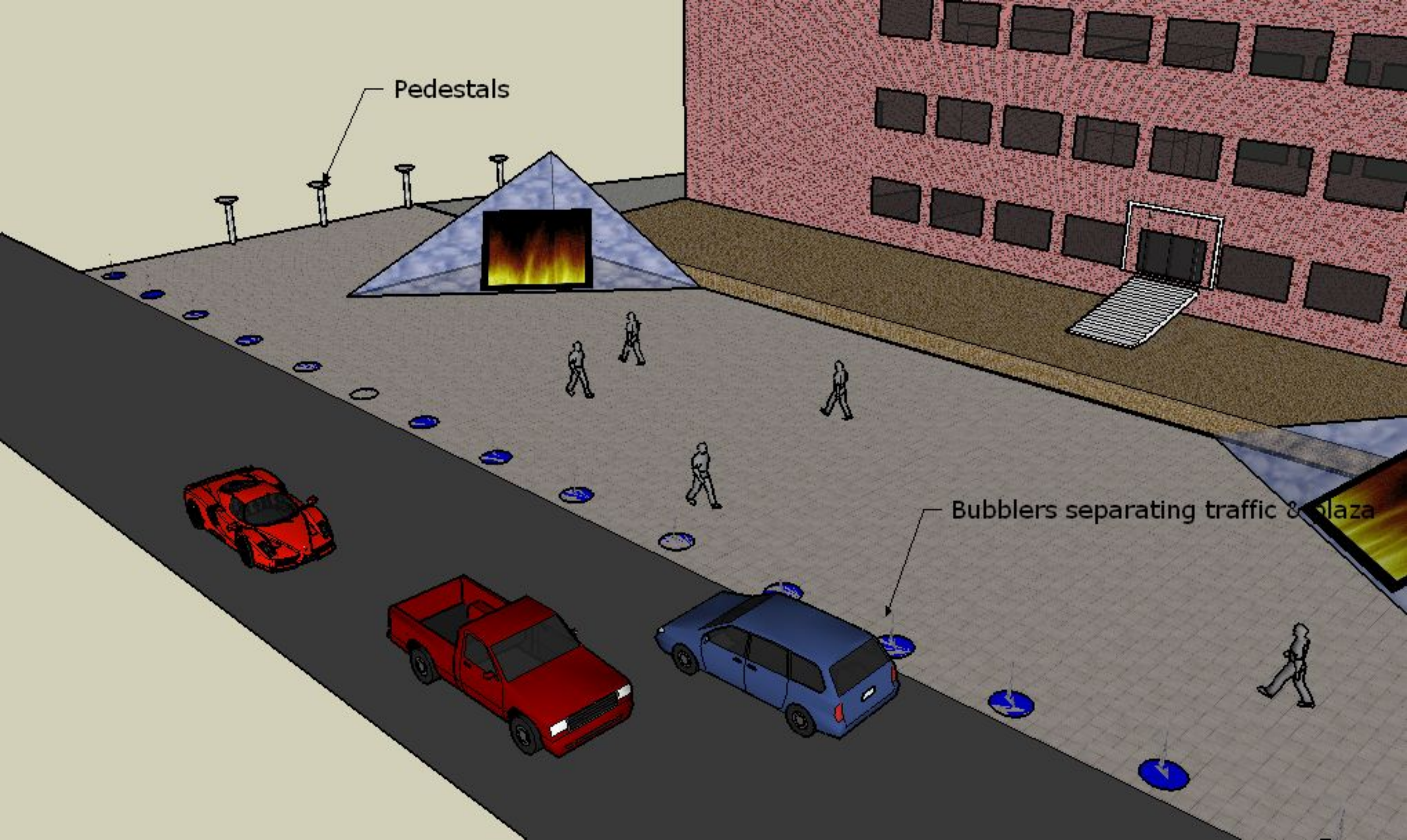


Triangular water feature w/digital image

Bubblers separating traffic & plaza

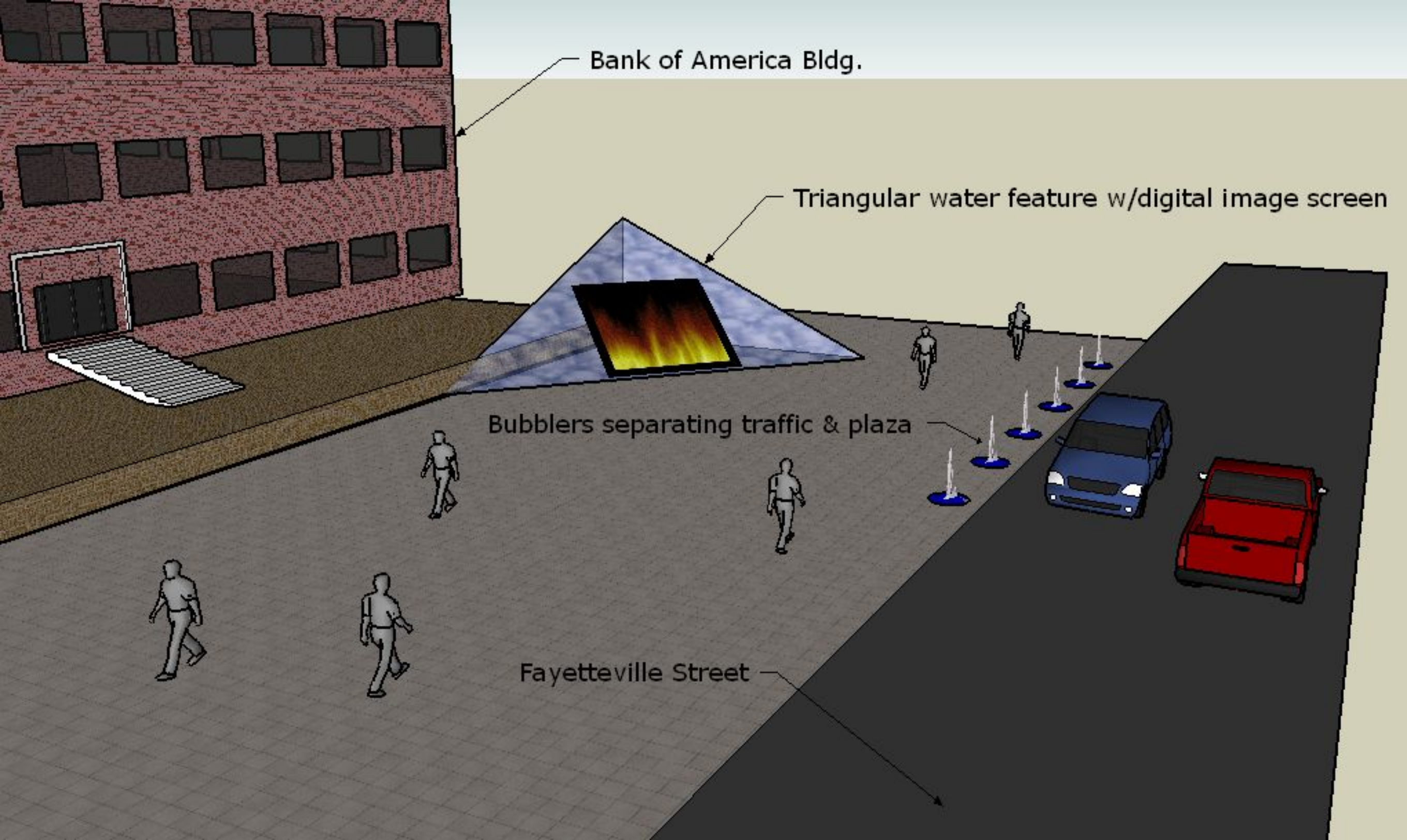
Fayetteville Street

water jumps uphill
from pedestal to
pedestal



Pedestals

Bubblers separating traffic & plaza



Bank of America Bldg.

Triangular water feature w/digital image screen

Bubblers separating traffic & plaza

Fayetteville Street

